Power Systems Engineering Research Center

Nuclear Energy Renaissance in the U.S.

Jasmina Vujic
Chair, Department of Nuclear Engineering
UC Berkeley

Research Tele-seminar
April 3, 2007
2:00-3:00 p.m. Eastern Time (11:00-12:00 Pacific)
Slides can be downloaded from the PSERC website on April 3

Seminar Description

The USA has neglected nuclear energy for the last 20 or 30 years, but nuclear energy will be the way of the future if the United States wants to have energy independence and reduce the human influence on global climate. Besides electricity, one of the outputs of a nuclear power plant is heat, and with some of the new designs, those high temperatures could be used for efficient production of hydrogen. With the growing concerns about the energy cost, supply and CO2 emissions of fossil fuels, nuclear power appears increasingly attractive as an energy source to many. Even with seemingly so many pluses, and support from the current presidential administration, a nuclear revival could be a tough sell to the public.

This presentation will view the recent advances in nuclear energy technologies, reprocessing and spent fuel management, safety considerations and economics, and the new Global Nuclear Energy Partnership program envisioned by the Bush Administration. It will also address possibilities of new nuclear power plant construction in the US by 2010.

Biography

Dr. Jasmina Vujic's career started as a researcher and lecturer at the Nuclear Science Institute, Vinca, Belgrade, Yugoslavia (now Serbia) in 1977. In 1989 after getting her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, she joined the staff at Argonne National Laboratory. In 1992 she joined the Nuclear Engineering Department at UC Berkeley as an Assistant Professor and is now Professor and Chair of the Department. Dr. Vujic received many awards including: the 1996 Prytanean Faculty Award at UC Berkeley; the 1991 Argonne National Laboratory Annual Exceptional Performance Award; the 1989 Distinguished Achievement Award for outstanding work in Nuclear Engineering, College of Engineering, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, and the Exceptional Teaching Award, Nuclear Sciences Institute, Belgrade, Yugoslavia (1982).

She is holder of one patent and author one book and more than 200 publications, including several awarded papers.

Participation: Live audio will be provided via teleconference. *The presentation slides can be downloaded from the PSERC website on April 3.* An audio-slide production will be available for viewing by web streaming a day after the tele-seminar.

Registration: To indicate that your organization would like to have an access line, send an email to pserc@asu.edu with the subject "Vujic Seminar". To use our limited phone bridge capacity efficiently, we ask that people in an organization meet together to participate rather than calling in separately, if at all possible. Connection information will be sent before the seminar. There is no charge for participating!

Professional Development Hour Certification: PDH certification is available for PSERC members. Send an email requesting PDH certification to pserc@asu.edu with the subject "PDH" after the seminar. *Include the name and title of each participant.*

Seminar Logistics and Assistance
Connection information will be emailed to you after you submit your request. If you have any questions, please contact Brianna Reed, PSERC's administrative assistant, at 480-965-1643 or pserc@asu.edu. You can also contact Dennis Ray, PSERC Executive Director, at 608-265-3808 or djray@engr.wisc.edu.

PSERC's Seminar Coordinator
Shmuel Oren, University of California at Berkeley
Email: oren@ieor.berkeley.edu

Shmuel welcomes feedback on the tele-seminars and suggestions for future ones.